

Whether Common or Not

Papa Goose Rhymes.

(With proper apologies to his good wife.)

Hickery, dickery, dock.
He took a flyer in stock.
The market went broke
And left him in soak,
And he couldn't survive the shock.

Old Father Hubbard went to the cupboard
To get his poor dog a crust.
When he got there the cupboard was bare,
For bread was controlled by a trust.

Little Jack Horner
Worked up a corner
In sugar and steel and wheat.
When the proper time came
Some checks bore his name,
And he captured a senator's seat.

The Man in the Moon came tumbling down
And asked for the right way to Wheeling.
He went to the East and his wealth increased
By a subsidized method of stealing.

There was a man in Pittsburg town,
And he was wondrous wise.
He piled up wealth by tariff laws
Enacted by poor guys.
And as he saw his wealth increase
He posed in manner chaste,
And built a block or two for books
So he'd not die disgraced.

Old King Coal was a jolly old soul,
A jolly old seeker of mirth.
He called for wire and also some posts,
And built a neat fence 'round the earth.

A Little Fable.

A Wise Man perambulating along the Public Highway fastened his Optics on a Foolish Man who was bent double and going Through a lot of Peculiar Motions.

"What are you trying to do?" queried the Wise Man.

"I am engaged in a Philanthropical Work," explained the Foolish Man, growing red in the face with his great Exertions.

"Pray explain," said the Wise Man, peering anxiously at the Distended Veins on the Foolish Man's brow.

"I am engaged in a Change of Labor, which is equal to a rest. I have spent many years trying to Tax myself Rich. I am now trying to Perform the Easier Task of lifting myself over this Fence by my Boot Straps."

Modern Definitions.

Justice—A means of placing sons.

Commission—Shifting responsibility and taking credit.

Liberality—Giving away something not wanted by the giver.

Franchise—Political trading stock.

Cupid's Discernment.

Lough laughs at locksmiths, so they say,
But certain quite that Cupid
Will never laugh at stocks and bonds,
For that would be too stupid.
And Cupid, though a little child,
Sans coat, sans cuffs, sans collars,
Is far too wise to shut his eyes
And laugh with scorn at dollars.

Uncle Hiram.

"I hev often noted," remarked Uncle Hiram, as he knocked the bowl of his pipe against the heel of his boot, "that most politicians prefer to vaccinate against virtue and take th' risk of an epidemic of fat appropriations.

"An' I hev also noted that th' shrewd polertician always sets th' people t' hollerin' in favor o' somethin that the politicians don't keer a cent whether the people git or not.

"Furthermor, it has been my experiunce that sober up is t' quit drinkin'. An' that leads me t' ob-

serve that the best way for a country t' git back t' th' right path is to foller th' backward trail t' th' place where th' paths forked."

Imperialism.

A little lust
For wealth;
A little trust
By stealth.
A little scheme for treasure great
By base betrayal of the state.
A little greed.
For gain;
And sad hearts bleed
In vain—
For on a blood-bought land there lies
A soldier slain 'neath tropic skies.

Parts of Speech.

Jingles cling to the memory years after one is forgotten. The following "metrical grammar," found in an old book, was used by our fathers and grandfathers—and possibly by their grandfathers—as an aid in learning the bottom principles of that most perplexing study:

Three little words we often see
Are Articles, "a," "an" and "the."
A Noun's the name of anything,
As "school" or "garden," "hoop" or "swing."
Adjectives tell the kind of Noun,
As "great," "small," "pretty," "white" or "brown."
Instead of Nouns the Pronouns stand—
"Her" fan, "his" face, "my" arm, "your" hand.
Verbs tell of something being done.
To "read," "write," "count," "jump," "swing" or "run."

How things are done the Adverbs tell,
As "slowly," "quickly," "ill" or "well."
Conjunctions join the words together,
As man "and" children, wind "or" weather.
The Preposition stands before
A Noun, as "in" or "through" a door.
The interjection shows surprise,
As "Oh!" how pretty, "Ah!" how wise!
And these are called Nine Parts of Speech,
Which reading, writing, speaking, teach.

—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Borrowed Fun

Ask the Other Fellow.

Mr. Carnegie may tell the truth when he says that he enjoys games of chance, but his fortune indicates that the game he likes best is the one in which the other fellow has no chance.—Columbus Press-Post.

A Deep Laid Scheme.

"Yes, that's my wife down in the cellar chopping kindling."
"How does that happen?"
"She's got an idea that she's a second Mrs. Nation, and I'm encouraging her to learn the use of the hatchet."—Ohio State Journal.

Inherited Superstition.

"I never undertake an important business venture in the afternoon; history has established a superstition that makes it seem unfortunate to do so."
"To what historical event do you attribute such a theory as that?"
"Why, the fall of Adam. That happened at the approach of Eve, you know."—Richmond Dispatch.

Fixed by Law.

Carper—They say "Time is money." That's all right, but how are we going to determine how much money a given period of time is worth?
Rownder—It's easy to fix a standard. A day is equal to \$1.
Carper—How do you make that out?
Rownder—Why, didn't you ever hear a magistrate say, "Ten dollars or ten days?"—Philadelphia Press.

Miscellaneous.

The necessities of the Philippine war of conquest and subjugation make it necessary for the Pittsburg Gazette to find a new reading for the Declaration of Independence. Thus it makes these wonderful discoveries:

The example of our forefathers in the war of independence is a stock argument in behalf of the Filipinos. No such idea as that independence is an absolute right is advanced in the Declaration of Independence, but the principle is laid down that insurrection against any established government is justifiable only when that government has been patiently tried and found to be intolerable.

The preamble of the Declaration—the bedrock on which it is constructed—makes short work of these assumptions. "We hold these truths to be self-evident," declares that immortal charter of human rights, that to secure the "rights of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness," "Governments . . . instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." What does this mean but that "independence is an absolute right," if a people are disposed to assert it? If not so disposed, or united to secure it, they can live on in a state of dependence, the citizens or subjects of another power. Our rights in the Philippines rest on the purchase from Spain of that revolting colony, which had practically succeeded in vanquishing the power of Spain, and the right of conquest in which we have not succeeded, even with double the number of troops in the old that Great Britain had in its attempt to subdue the American colonies. The right of the Filipinos to institute a government of their own, accepting the demonstrated facts as to their unity of purpose, earnestness and determination, is superior to any right to govern them that the United States acquired by paying Spain \$20,000,000, or by incomplete and it may be impossible conquest. If this is not so the occasion of the Declaration of Independence and the principles it maintains lose their value and importance as a lesson in the government of mankind. The Gazette, however, is undoubtedly correct in maintaining that to justify our course in the Philippines we must abolish the Declaration of Independence and its basic principle that "governments are instituted among men deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."—Pittsburg Post.

Merchants of the Salt Guild met at Tien-Tsin yesterday and framed a memorial to the Czar and President Loubet protesting against the alleged action of the Russian and French consuls in retaining possession of quantities of salt at that point.

The special cable dispatch from Tien-Tsin to this morning's Herald chronicling this protest of the Chinese merchants says that the consuls raised their respective flags over the salt heaps about a month after the occupation of the city, and have refused to surrender the property unless they are paid three-fourths of its market value.

If the plaintiffs are telling the whole truth about the matter there is no question that they will receive prompt redress from St. Petersburg and Paris. The Czar's attitude in China from the first has been characterized by humanity and fair dealing, and the temper of the French government is plainly exhibited in the fact that it is at this moment sending back to the Chinese the objects shipped to France as her portion of the loot taken by the forces of the powers.—New York Herald.

If international arbitration is ever to become the rule and not the exception, no fairer opportunity for a beginning could be found than is now offered in China. The nations which lately met in a peace congress and found themselves entirely agreed in theory are one side—the other begs for arbitration and pledges herself to abide the verdict. Christian civilization can furnish an object lesson to all its rivals on a stage which engages the attention of Moslem, Buddhist and Brahman alike; the oppressive use of power will hurt us in all ages to come.—Jacksonville (Fla.) Times-Union.